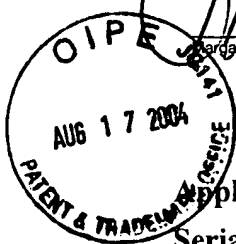


I hereby certify that on 8/13/04 **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING** this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) with sufficient postage as first class mail
☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No. _____

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: P1229US (51288-00009US)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John Kantor

Serial No.: 10/731,968

Filed: December 9, 2003

Title: MODULAR STENT HAVING POLYMER BRIDGES AT MODULAR UNIT CONTACT SITES

Conf. No.: 6422

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 3473

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure §§609 and 707.05(b), enclosed is a copy of the substitute for FORM PTO-1449 listing the references that are known to applicant. Applicants enclose copies of each of the listed references which are not U.S. patents.

This art is being filed for consideration in compliance with § 1.97 within the following time period:

37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b) This information disclosure statement is being filed by the applicant for consideration and entry before the mailing of a first office action on the merits.

The submission of the above-described documents does not constitute an admission nor should it be construed as a representation that a search has been made, construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

Applicant reserves the right to antedate or otherwise remove the documents as references.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered in the examination of this application and identified on the list of references cited on the patent issuing for this application.

Applicant also requests that an initialed copy of the substitute for FORM PTO-1449 be entered in the application file and returned to applicant with the next communication from the Office in accordance with MPEP § 609.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application. Applicant believes that no fee is due with this communication; however, if the Commissioner deems a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-3207 associated with this response.

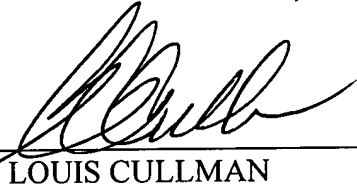
Respectfully submitted,

PRESTON GATES & ELLIS, LLP

Date

8/9/04

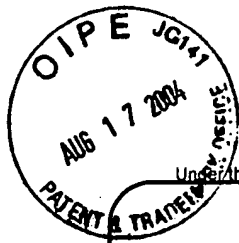
By:


LOUIS CULLMAN
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 39,645

Contact information below for inquiries
regarding the above submission:

Customer No.: 28,390
Louis C. Cullman
Preston Gates Ellis LLP
(949) 253-0900 Telephone
(949) 253-0902 Fax

Enclosures: PTO-1440 and non-US patent references cited thereon, Transmittal



IFW

PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/731,968
Filing Date	December 9, 2003
First Named Inventor	John Kantor
Art Unit	3473
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	P1229US (51288-00009US)

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers
<input type="checkbox"/> Petition
<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation
Change of Correspondence Address
<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund
<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Substitute for PTO-1449 and non-US Patent References listed |
|--|--|--|

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Louis C. Cullman Preston Gates & Ellis, LLP Reg. No.: 39,645
Signature	
Date	8/9/04

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Margaret M. Hasson
-----------------------	--------------------

Signature		Date	8/13/04
-----------	--	------	---------

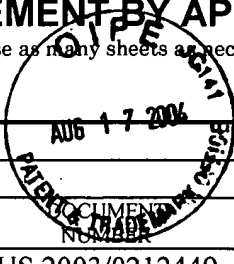
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1



Application Number	10/731,968
Filing Date	12/09/03
First Named Inventor	John Kantor
Group Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	P1229US (51288-00009US)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 2003/0212449	11/13/03	Cox	623	1.15	
	5,817,152	10/06/98	Birdsall et al.	623	1	
	6,258,117	07/10/01	Camrud et al.	623	1.16	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	PCT/US03/39290	Mailing date: 07/08/04	PCT			N/A	
	WO 03/082152	10/09/03	PCT	A61F 2/06		N/A	

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER
SIGNATURE

DATE
CONSIDERED

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.